list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is an ongoing process and such requests are processed in accordance with the approved modalities.

Care of Old age dependants by Government employees

2065. SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have directed all the Central Government Departments to issue instructions to all the Government employees under the Services Conduct Rules to take due care of the old and the aged dependent on them and to warn that action would be taken against those guilty of neglecting them; and

(b) if so, the details of the instructions issued in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN-): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Reservation in private sector

†2066. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to provide reservation to SCs, STs rand Other Backward Classes in Private Companies also;

(b) if so, whether the percentage and nature of this reservation have been determined; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) to (c) A Group of Ministers (GoM) has been constituted to examine the issue of affirmative action, including reservation, in private sector. The dialogue initiated by the GoM with the apex associations of industry and trade to see how best the private sector can fulfill the aspirations of the youth belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is in progress.

List of Minorities

2067. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has called upon Government to keep the list of minorities at the barest minimum and ultimately to dispense with it completely;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) and (b) In the case of Bal Patil and Another Versus Union of India and Others relating to inclusion of "Jains" in the list of Minorities Communities notified by the Central Government, the Supreme Court of India has *inter-alia* made the observation that the Commission instead of encouraging claims from different communities for being added to a list of notified minorities under the Act, should suggest ways and means to help create social conditions where the list of notified minorities is gradually reduced and done away with altogether.

(c) Government is already following policies for socio-economic development of weaker sections of the society.

Allotment of flats under Festival Housing Scheme, 2004

2068. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY:
SHRI THENNALA G. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Development Authority have allotted flats at Nasirpur (Dwarka)in New Delhi under the Festival-Housing Scheme, 2004;

(b) if so, whether possession of all the flats to successful candidates have been handed over by the DDA;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government are aware that though these flats need extensive repairs, the DDA has not repaired these flats even though the possession in some cases have been given 4 or 5 months ago and the DDA has already collected the entire amount from the allottees;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether DDA has taken any action against the erring officers; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?